BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

STACY LYNN WADSWORTH 14290 Davos Drive Truckee, CA 96161

Registered Nurse License No. 610857

Respondent

Case No. 2011-437

OAH No. 2010120649

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective on August 12, 2011.

• IT IS SO ORDERED August 12, 2011.

President

Board of Registered Nursing

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

- 13	•	
1	KAMALA D. HARRIS	
2	Attorney General of California ARTHUR D. TAGGART	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General KAREN R. DENVIR	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 197268	
5	1300 I Street, Suite 125 P.O. Box 944255	
6	Sacramento, CA 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 324-5333	
7	Facsimile: (916) 327-8643 Attorneys for Complainant	
8		RE THE
9	BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
10	STATE OF C	CALIFORNIA
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 2011-437
12	STACY LYNN WADSWORTH	OAH No. 2010120649
13	14290 Davos Drive Truckee, California 96161	STIPULATED SURRENDER OF
14	Registered Nurse License No. RN 610857	LICENSE AND ORDER
15	Respondent.	
16		
17	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGI	REED by and between the parties in this
18	proceeding that the following matters are true:	
19	PAR	<u>cties</u>
20	1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Comp	lainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of
21	Registered Nursing. She brought this action sole	ely in her official capacity and is represented in
22	this matter by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney Gene	ral of the State of California, by Karen R. Denvir
23	Deputy Attorney General.	
24	2. Stacy Lynn Wadsworth (Responden	t) is representing herself in this proceeding and
25	has chosen not to exercise her right to be represe	ented by counsel.
26	3. On or about December 19, 2002, the	Board of Registered Nursing issued Registered
27	Nurse License No. RN 610857 to Stacy Wadsworth (Respondent). The Registered Nurse Licens	
28	i daga pangangan sa	

was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 2011-437 and will expire on November 30, 2012, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 2011-437 was filed before the Board of Registered Nursing (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on November 9, 2010. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 2011-437 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in
 Accusation No. 2011-437. Respondent also has carefully read, and understands the effects of this
 Stipulated Surrender of License and Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel, at her own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

- Respondent understands that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 2011-437, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon her Registered Nurse License.
- 9. For the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a factual basis for the charges in the Accusation and that those charges constitute cause for discipline.

Respondent hereby gives up her right to contest that cause for discipline exists based on those charges.

10. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation she enables the Board to issue an order accepting the surrender of her Registered Nurse License without further process.

CONTINGENCY

- 11. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Registered Nursing.

 Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board of Registered Nursing may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and surrender, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Surrender and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 12. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 13. This Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Surrender of License and Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.
- 14. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Order:

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<u>ORDER</u>

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Registered Nurse License No. RN 610857, issued to Respondent Stacy Lynn Wadsworth, is surrendered and accepted by the Board of Registered Nursing.

- The surrender of Respondent's Registered Nurse License and the acceptance of the surrendered license by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent.
 This stipulation constitutes a record of the discipline and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board.
- 2. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a registered nurse in California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.
- 3. Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board her pocket license and, if one was issued, her wall certificate on or before the effective date of the Decision and Order.
- 4. If Respondent ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for reinstatement of a revoked license in effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 2011-437 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.
- 5. If and when Respondent's license is reinstated, she shall pay to the Board costs associated with its investigation and enforcement pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3 in the amount of \$22,040.35. Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board. Nothing in this provision shall be construed to prohibit the Board from reducing the amount of cost recovery upon reinstatement of the license.
- 6. Respondent shall not apply for licensure or petition for reinstatement for two (2) years from the effective date of the Board of Registered Nursing's Decision and Order.

ACCEPTANCE 1 I have carefully read the Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I understand the 2 3 stipulation and the effect it will have on my Registered Nurse License. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to 4 be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Registered Nursing. 5 6 DATED: 06/08/2011 7 8 Respondent 9 **ENDORSEMENT** 10 The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted 11 for consideration by the Board of Registered Nursing of the Department of Consumer Affairs. 12 Dated: June 2011 Respectfully submitted, 13 KAMALA D. HARRIS 14 Attorney General of California ARTHUR D. TAGGART 15 Supervising Deputy Attorney General 16 17 KAREN R. DENVIR 18 Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant 19 20 21 SA2010101005 10711120.doc 22 23 24 25 26 27

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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 2011-437

THE BUTTON

1	EDMUND G. Brown Jr.		
2	Attorney General of California ARTHUR D. TAGGART		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General KAREN R. DENVIR		
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 197268		
5	1300 I Street, Suite 125 P.O. Box 944255		
6	Sacramento, CA 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 324-5333		
7	Facsimile: (916) 327-8643 Attorneys for Complainant		
8	BEFORE THE		
9	BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
11	1124		
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 2011-437		
13	STACY LYNN WADSWORTH A C C U S A T I O N aka STACY LYNN COVERT		
14	14290 Davos Drive		
15	Truckee, California 96161		
16	Registered Nurse License No. 610857		
17	Respondent.		
18	Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN ("Complainant") alleges:		
19	<u>PARTIES</u>		
20	1. Complainant brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity as the Interim		
21	Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing ("Board"), Department of Consumer		
22	Affairs.		
23	2. On or about December 19, 2002, the Board issued Registered Nurse License Number		
24	610857 to Stacy Lynn Wadsworth, also known as Stacy Lynn Covert ("Respondent"). The		
25	license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will		
26	expire on November 30, 2010, unless renewed.		
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JURISDICTION

- 3. Business and Professions Code ("Code") section 2750 provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.
- 4. Code section 2764 provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee or to render a decision imposing discipline on the license. Under Code section 2811(b), the Board may renew an expired license at any time within eight years after the expiration.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

5. Code section 2761 states, in pertinent part:

"The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:

- (a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- (1) Incompetence, or gross negligence in carrying out usual certified or licensed nursing functions."
 - 6. Code section 2762 states, in pertinent part:

"In addition to other acts constituting unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [the Nursing Practice Act], it is unprofessional conduct for a person licensed under this chapter to do the following:

(e) Falsify, or make grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent, or unintelligible entries in any hospital, patient, or other record pertaining to the substances described in subdivision (a) of this section."

REGULATORY PROVISIONS

7. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1442, states:

"As used in Section 2761 of the code, 'gross negligence' includes an extreme departure from the standard of care which, under similar circumstances, would have ordinarily been exercised by a competent registered nurse. Such an extreme departure means the repeated failure to provide

nursing care as required or failure to provide care or to exercise ordinary precaution in a single situation which the nurse knew, or should have known, could have jeopardized the client's health or life."

- 8. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1443.5 states, in pertinent part:
- "A registered nurse shall be considered to be competent when he/she consistently demonstrates the ability to transfer scientific knowledge from social, biological and physical sciences in applying the nursing process, as follows:
- (5) Evaluates the effectiveness of the care plan through observation of the client's physical condition and behavior, signs and symptoms of illness, and reaction to treatment and through communication with the client and health team members, and modifies the plan as needed."

COST RECOVERY

9. Code section 125.3 provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

DRUGS

- 10. "Morphine," is a Schedule II controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11055(b)(1)(M).
- 11. "Vicodin" is a compound consisting of 5 mg. hydrocodone bitartrate, also known as dihydrocodeinone, a Schedule III controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11056(e)(4), and 500 mg. acetaminophen per tablet.
- 12. "Ativan," a brand of Lorazepam, is a Schedule IV controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11057(d)(13).

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Falsified, Made Incorrect or Inconsistent Entries In Hospital or Patient Records)

13. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2761(a), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct as defined in Code section 2762(e), in that between January 19, 2008, and August 7, 2008, while employed as a registered nurse at Tahoe Forest Hospital, located in

1	h. On or about August 7, 2008, at 0752 hours, Respondent signed out one (1) 10 mg.
2	Morphine injectable. Respondent charted the administration of Morphine, but failed to document
3	the amount of Morphine administered.
4	Patient N:
5	i. On or about January 19, 2008, at 1635 hours, Respondent signed out one (1) 10 mg.
6	Morphine injectable. Respondent charted the administration of 5 mg. of Morphine at 1700 hours,
7	but failed to account for the remaining 5 mg. of Morphine in any hospital or patient record.
8	j. On or about January 19, 2008, at 1839 hours, Respondent signed out one (1) 10 mg.
9	Morphine injectable. Respondent charted the administration of 5 mg. of Morphine at 1830 hours,
10	but failed to account for the remaining 5 mg, of Morphine in any hospital or patient record.
11	k. On or about January 19, 2008, at 2020 hours, Respondent signed out one (1) 10 mg.
12	Morphine injectable. Respondent charted the administration of 4 mg. of Morphine at 2015 hours,
13	but failed to account for the remaining 6 mg. of Morphine in any hospital or patient record.
14	SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
	(C) 37 19
15	(Gross Negligence)
15 16	(Gross Negligence) 14. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2761(a)(1), on the grounds of
Į	
16	14. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2761(a)(1), on the grounds of
16 17	14. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2761(a)(1), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that between January 19, 2008, and August 7, 2008, while employed
16 17 18	14. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2761(a)(1), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that between January 19, 2008, and August 7, 2008, while employed as a registered nurse at Tahoe Forest Hospital, located in Truckee, California, Respondent was
16 17 18 19	14. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2761(a)(1), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that between January 19, 2008, and August 7, 2008, while employed as a registered nurse at Tahoe Forest Hospital, located in Truckee, California, Respondent was grossly negligent in the following respects:
16 17 18 19 20	14. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2761(a)(1), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that between January 19, 2008, and August 7, 2008, while employed as a registered nurse at Tahoe Forest Hospital, located in Truckee, California, Respondent was grossly negligent in the following respects: a. Respondent falsified, made grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent or unintelligible
16 17 18 19 20 21	14. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2761(a)(1), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that between January 19, 2008, and August 7, 2008, while employed as a registered nurse at Tahoe Forest Hospital, located in Truckee, California, Respondent was grossly negligent in the following respects: a. Respondent falsified, made grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent or unintelligible entries in hospital or patient records, as more particularly set forth above in paragraph 13.
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	14. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2761(a)(1), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that between January 19, 2008, and August 7, 2008, while employed as a registered nurse at Tahoe Forest Hospital, located in Truckee, California, Respondent was grossly negligent in the following respects: a. Respondent falsified, made grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent or unintelligible entries in hospital or patient records, as more particularly set forth above in paragraph 13. b. Respondent failed to exercise the standards of competent performance, as defined in
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	14. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2761(a)(1), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that between January 19, 2008, and August 7, 2008, while employed as a registered nurse at Tahoe Forest Hospital, located in Truckee, California, Respondent was grossly negligent in the following respects: a. Respondent falsified, made grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent or unintelligible entries in hospital or patient records, as more particularly set forth above in paragraph 13. b. Respondent failed to exercise the standards of competent performance, as defined in California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1443.5(5), in that she failed to consistently,
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	14. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2761(a)(1), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that between January 19, 2008, and August 7, 2008, while employed as a registered nurse at Tahoe Forest Hospital, located in Truckee, California, Respondent was grossly negligent in the following respects: a. Respondent falsified, made grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent or unintelligible entries in hospital or patient records, as more particularly set forth above in paragraph 13. b. Respondent failed to exercise the standards of competent performance, as defined in California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1443.5(5), in that she failed to consistently, completely and accurately conduct and document patient assessments pre/post administration of
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	14. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2761(a)(1), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that between January 19, 2008, and August 7, 2008, while employed as a registered nurse at Tahoe Forest Hospital, located in Truckee, California, Respondent was grossly negligent in the following respects: a. Respondent falsified, made grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent or unintelligible entries in hospital or patient records, as more particularly set forth above in paragraph 13. b. Respondent failed to exercise the standards of competent performance, as defined in California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1443.5(5), in that she failed to consistently, completely and accurately conduct and document patient assessments pre/post administration of medication, as more particularly set forth above in paragraph 13(a) - (c).

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THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct)

15. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2761(a), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that between January 19, 2008, and August 7, 2008, while employed as a registered nurse at Tahoe Forest Hospital, located in Truckee, California, Respondent demonstrated unprofessional conduct, as more particularly set forth above in paragraph 14.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License Number 610857, issued to Stacy Karen Lynn Wadsworth, also known as Stacy Lynn Covert:
- 2. Ordering Stacy Lynn Wadsworth, also known as Stacy Lynn Covert, to pay the Board of Registered Nursing the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3; and,
 - 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: 11/9/10 Stace Benn

LOUISE R. BAILEY, M.ED., RN Interim Executive Officer Board of Registered Nursing

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California Complainant

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